table to the alcove, where he picked up the evening paper.

help reading the face grew white. half page lying on the desk before him. It was written in a large "Mildred Cole, whose name was men could be induced to offer roundhand: "They all think my clothes very pretty, and I feel very proud of your work and thoughtfulness in making them." He read no more, but turned emotional force she is a beautiful revived with all its boons and

she had been interrupted in a letter to her mother. Then he scowl- were without a word. Blake left inside, locked and bolted. And ed. He knew perfectly well that the room. Late that night he was just as he was about to apply the his two sisters had made fun of still pacing the library, when he knocker a voice stern and admonher clothes almost before her face. heard the man open the outer itory, reached him from above. It was hard to believe that this door. Mildred passed the library keen eyed girl had not noticed it. Just then she came into the li-

A GARMENT OF MYSTERY.

LAKE could not

brary without noticing him, as he stopped under the portiere. A sat at the far end. She went over long black cloak was slipping off to the window, unaware that he her shoulders, revealing her in was observing the neightened cole evening dress of black, undoubtor in her face, usually olive-tinted edly made by an artist who knew and calm. The anger in her eyes how to make the most of her stirred Blake's heart, but he sat beauty, without forgetting the demotionless.

Suddenly all her pride and anger left her. She sank down on the me," she said with a directness with her hands. Blake was beside her in a moment.

his arm about her as though he too. had the right, "what has happened now?"

She drew away without resentall."

of it.

"Oh, you heard them?" she asked, pain quivering in her eyes. hideous dresses. But you see, I "I know that, as their guest I do have never had time to-to think not reflect eredit upon them in of that until-now." my dress. I have not had time to study fashion and my mother has worried so hard that I have not had the courage to correct her old fashioned styles. Clothes! I did not know they were everything!"

She had spoken rapidly and regained her self control. Blake lost his. "Mildred they are least of all. You are the most beautiful woman I know and your garment of mystery which has made me feel afraid is far more than the them.25

Quick as a flash she had risen, ger salaries and perquisites are her face radiant. "I love you," involved, and where there is a

before he could move. ing and soon withdrew from the law of the State the provision to

said, very slowly, in order to re- more fortunat if better eqipped, press the emotion in his voice. higher-classed and more patriotic unknown yesterday, is suddenly themselves for the smaller offices. brought into notice as one of the The trouble is that politics have most brilliant writers of the day. done far too much toward annihi-Her novel of country life has just lating patriotism, and for this reabeen accepted by the Kimballs. son when politics are reduced to Besides having a keen mind and the minimum patriotism will be the page face downward and got out his paper and pens for his morning's work. He had told Mildred to use his desk; evidently will be the lion of the winter."

He motional force she is a blessings. blessings. Cole cares to stay in the city she will be the lion of the winter."

He tried to more than a lot of the winter.

door and he called to her with a do you want?" note of authority in his voice. She mands of fashion.

"I hope that you have forgiven window seat and covered her face that recalled Blake to his senses. He forgot her sudden fame, her

book and all except his own dis-"Mildred!" he said, putting appointment, yet he was direct,

"Then you do not love me?" he asked. She turned to go without answering, but he did not allow it. ment and tried to appear natural. And when she had told him that "Nothing," she said, "nothing at his courtesy and kindness while she had been waiting from day to "I wish you would not mind day for word from the publishers my sisters' rudeness," he answer had been all that had sustained ed as though she had complained her—she paused a second, then she added:

"And you seemed to forget my

TOO MUCH POLITICS.



ME tendency to have shorter political campaigns in the South appears to be growing. It is noticeably so in the case of municipal campaigns. In large Northern cities

style and fashion of the rest of where there are innumerable offices to be filled, where much larshe said almost in a whisper, and much more lively scramble for pothen she turned and left the room litical jobs, conditions are naturally different. The field is so much That evening she did not come broader in the big cities, and a to dinner but sent word that she large proportion of the population had gone to an old friend of her is directly or indirectly interested mother's to spend the night. Mrs. in the results. Here in the South, Travis reproved her daughters' however, where the population is criticisms of the girl who had much less numerous and the jobs come down for a week "on busi- proportionately so, the feeling has ness," as Ellen Cole, her old for some time been developing schoolmate, had written when ask- that a constant political agitation ing hospitality for her daughter is injurious to the business and Mildred. Blake listened to his agricultural interests of the people. sisters with a rather dangerous This feeling doubtless had no little look in his eyes, yet he said noth- effect in embodying in the organic

have the regular sessions of the Legislature held only once is four

The people are scarcely ever given a real rest from politics. A political agitation of one kind or another is going on nearly all the time. These agitations are injurious to business not only by rea-son of the fact that they consume time and claim the attention and energies of no small proportion of the people, but they create more or less uncertainty and excitement and thus to some extent take people's minds off their business. Elections of one sort or another these days come so fast that business men seldem get any relief from politics. With presidential, gubernatorial, congressional, legislative, county and municipal elections the people are subjected to a siege that most of us do not relish. Aside from the bitterness frequently engendered by these contests and the effect they have upon industrial, commercial and agricultural pursuits the public at large is beginning to view the field of politics far more in the light of a scramble for office than of public spirit and patriotism. There is a reason for this. The craving for public office is growing keeper every year. Men who have built up extensive law practices frequently give them up and rush into politics body and soul to secure offices to which there is little honor attached, which are of brief duration and to which the financial consideration attached is a mere drop in the bucket as compared with their previous incomes. The spirit of rivalry and competition, the conscious power involved, the self-satisfaction of having won the fight, have much influence in persuading men to pursue public office.

But the business interests of the country would be far better off if After a few minutes' reading his no small part of our political again tations were squelched. The "Mother, listen to this," he country at large would be much

There Are Others.

He tried the door with his key, Mrs. Travis and her daughters but the thing was locked on the

"Halloa! Who are you? What "My dear," he called, "isn't

that a trifle gratuitous? I want to come in. D'ye seef" "Where have you been till this hour?"

"Club, my darling. Been down discussing the strike."

"Very well, then, Now you can go back and discuss the lockout. Does it still rain?"

No girl has a right to to take a kiss om a man and not give it back to him.

There is no disease so insinuating, so slow but sure, as kidney dis-ease, or so wide-spread. The symp-toms are so slight as to generally escape notice.

The first indications appear in

the urine, with varied effects. The quantity may be increased or deereased; it is likely to be highly colored and scalding; it may be pale or thin, or thick and milky with a sediment. Later on more pronounced symptoms will be present, such as dizziness, bloating, etc., with marked bladder and urinary

with marked bladder and urinary disorders.

Poisonous waste matter is collected by the blood from all parts of the aystem and carried to the kidneys, where it is separated and cast out through the urine. The kidneys deal with the blood only, deriving, nourishment therefrom. Hence, if the blood is bad the kidneys are not only overworked, but underfed. How necessary is it, therefore, that the purity and vitality of the blood should be maintain ed. It is plain why the great blood purifier and strengthener—Dr. Harter's Iron Tonichas been successfully used in treating kidney diseases and in preventing same. In purifying the blood the kidneys are greatly relieved, while, at the same time, new strength and vitality are given these organs. The following letter tells a very old story:

PINE KNOT, KY., June 25, 1902. The Dr. Harter Medicine Co., Dayton, O. GENTLEMEN: I had a severe case of typhold fever six years ago, which left my kidneys in had order. I have tried a number of remedies and taken treatment from doctors, but Dr. Harter's fron Tonic has done me more good than C. CORDELL. everything else.

Merchant and Mine Operator. There are thousands of just such ses as the above that are treated without results because they are wrongly treated. Mr. Cordell's condition resulted from an exhausting fever; the kidneys, as well as the rest of the system, had been wasted by disease. No wonder Dr. Harter's Iron Tonic promptly cured, because it purified and enriched the blood, and such blood carried new rength and vitality directly to the kidneys and to all the organs.

FOR SALE EVERYWEERS.

Mexican Mustang Liniment

don't stay on or near the surface, but goes in through the muscles and



For a Lame Back, Sore Muscles,

or, in fact, all Lameness and Soreness of your body there is nothing that will drive out the pain and inflammation so quickly as

## Mexican Mustang Liniment.)

If you cannot reach the spot yourself get some one to assist you, for It is essential that the liniment be rubbed in most thoroughly.

Mexican Mustang Liniment evercomes the ailments of borses and all domestic animals. In fact,

RS Tour Liver! Your appetite is poor, your heart "flutters," you have headaches, tongue is coated, bad breath, bowels constipated, bad taste in the mouth? If not all of these symptoms, then some of them? It's vegetable remedy, containing no mineral or narcotic poisons. -It will correct any or all symptoms, make your health, appetite and spirits good. At druggists, 50 cents.

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Beach, Ocean View, Roanoke, Hot
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INTER STATE CORRES. INST., Springs, Va. Asheville and Hot Springs, N. C., Deer Park, Md., Niagara Falls, Jamestown, Mayville and Lakewood, N. Y. Rates \$12,00 to \$20,00, depending on destination. Tickets good for return leaving destination until and Including August 31, 1902. Apply to any M. & O. rallroad Agent for tickets and further information.

Kodel Dyspepsia Cure Dipests what you eat.

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> Cedar Bapids, Is. COAL, COAL, COAL!

I AM selling she very best Coal on the mar-ket at the lowest possible price, I posi-tively guarantee this Coal to be cheaper and as good quality as any shipped to this eity. Your patronage solicited. R. F. ELLIS.

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